

# The Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI)

*Saving Lives in Texas and  
Providing a Strong Return on the Federal Investment*

## History of SDPI

Congress established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) in 1997 to address the growing epidemic of diabetes in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities. This program has grown and become our nation's most strategic and effective federal initiative to combat diabetes. SDPI is currently reauthorized through fiscal year 2017.

## SDPI Outcomes

SDPI funding supports over 450 programs in 35 states, and the results have been extraordinary. We are now able to document that this investment is both saving lives and saving our federal healthcare system money. Blood sugar levels have decreased, the risk of cardiovascular disease has been reduced, diabetes-related kidney disease progression has slowed, and primary prevention and weight management programs for children and youth have increased.

"I wouldn't be here now if it wasn't for the program, I would have given up a long time ago."

Dawn Hale, Ottawa Tribe,  
Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas Diabetes Program

"The program has helped me learn how to look at the labels and understand about carbs. I understand how vegetables and fruit help my body so I eat more of them."

Carolyn Shackelford, Choctaw Nation,  
Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas Diabetes Program

National Indian  
Health Board



For more information, visit [www.nihb.org/SDPI](http://www.nihb.org/SDPI)

## SDPI support in Texas

According to 2010 CDC data, approximately 1,707,000 people in Texas – 9.5% of the state's population- had diagnosed diabetes, and many of them suffer from serious diabetes related complications or conditions. In addition to the human toll diabetes places on people in Texas, the financial burden diabetes places on the state's health system is staggering- in 2012, the estimated direct and indirect cost of diabetes in Texas was approximately \$18.24 billion.

## SDPI funding in Texas totals

**\$584,689**

**for Community-Directed Grant programs.**

### Programs:

- Alabama-Coushatta
- Cochiti Pueblo
- Dallas Inter-Tribal
- Kickapoo Tribe of TX
- Nambe Pueblo
- Pojoaque Pueblo
- San Ildefonso Pueblo
- San Juan Pueblo
- Santa Clara Pueblo
- Tesuque Pueblo
- Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo

### Renewal Is Vital

SDPI is providing a strong return on the federal investment and is saving lives in Texas. Congress must renew this critical program to ensure that the SDPI funded programs can continue their important work and that the lessons learned from these programs can be disseminated across Indian Country and replicated to keep us on the path to a diabetes-free future.